



NEWS RELEASE

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Investigation Leads to Arrest in Burglaries from Local Post Office Locations

Eugene Police detectives have been investigating 31-year-old Christopher Yandell and 42-year-old Allen Widmer for a series of property crimes throughout the past year and this week both were arrested in connection with burglaries of the Elmira and Marcola post office locations.

Property crimes detectives learned of the pair's connection to the burglaries during a search warrant at an address on Warthen Road in Elmira from August 30, when their investigation led them to the address following a stolen boat and the burglary of a storage unit in which numerous weapons were taken. In addition to burglary charges in connection with the Eugene area storage unit and a Veneta residential burglary, detectives uncovered evidence including over \$2000 in stamps, a postal tote and text messages that connected the two to the post office crimes.

Detectives worked together with US Postal Service Investigators to piece together the case that included the theft of packages, blank money orders, and printing machines. During a later unrelated arrest of Widmer in September of this year for a stolen vehicle, detectives uncovered additional evidence of the duo's involvement in the burglaries.

The case finally came to a resolution this week when Christopher Yandell, was arrested Monday, and Allen Widmer, was arrested on Wednesday, on two counts of burglary and additional federal crimes following a Federal Grand Jury indictment on the cases. Both Yandell and Widmer were also indicted for additional state crimes.

